

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PEASE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PEASE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HERMAN B. WELLS, LIVING LEGEND OF INDIANA HISTORY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Indiana (Ms. CARSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, last month Indiana lost a favorite son of great distinction, a living legend of Indiana history. I rise to acquaint the larger world with Dr. Herman B. Wells of Indiana University who died at the age of 97.

The standard details of his life mark great attainment: Economics professor, then Dean of the Business School, he became President of the University in 1937, and served until 1962. Then, retiring not at all, he continued his service as Chancellor of the University until his death. Were that all there was, he would be worthy of great honor.

But there was more, marking his true greatness: he gave himself to the University and to its many thousands of students, leading learning and leading change in important ways. He protected controversial research; he developed a world-class school of music; he used his personal power to roll back racial discrimination at the campus; he helped the school to integrate its basketball team; and, friend and counselor to generations of students, with his counsel he helped make Indiana and the Nation a better place.

In our loss of Herman Wells, Indiana has lost a towering figure of American higher education.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. METCALF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. METCALF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. UNDERWOOD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED STATES SUBMARINE SERVICE AND VETERANS HEPATITIS C EPIDEMIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. KELLY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor men who bravely served the

United States in our most trying times as a Nation. Today marks the 100th anniversary of the U.S. submarine force. Will Rogers once said, "We can't all be heroes because somebody has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by. Today we applaud the heroes and we honor fellow submariners who remain on eternal patrol. May we never forget them and their brave deeds." Those are the words of Mr. Rogers.

The thoughts of Will Rogers live with us today. During the most serious challenges our Nation has faced, the men of the submarine service did their jobs above and beyond the call of duty. They were essential to creating victory in war and remain essential to keeping America strong in peace. War fought under the sea developed its own physics and harsh realities completely different from the experiences of any soldier who came before them. These men placed complete and total trust in their skippers and their skippers had to have the same faith in their men. During World War II, the price they paid for their successes was heavy. The submarine service carried the highest mortality rate of any U.S. service, more than a 20 percent loss of life. However, one has only to look at the statistics to see how effective our submariners really were. With only 1.6 percent of all Navy personnel, the submarine service sank over 55 percent of all Japanese ships sunk in the war, including one-third of all Japanese Men-of-War.

President Roosevelt when he was secretly told of the success of our submariners said, "I can only echo the words of Winston Churchill: 'Never have so many owed so much to so few.'" Those lost on submarines in the line of duty for their country will never be forgotten. We must not forget those who still serve in the silent service. Happy birthday to the U.S. submarine force.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to speak about something else that is important to all veterans in this Nation. I want to speak about what the Department of Veterans Affairs has described as an epidemic. I am talking about the staggeringly high infection rates of hepatitis C among our country's veterans population.

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Hepatitis C is a fatal disease that can incubate for over 30 years before any symptoms occur. Over 70 percent of those Americans infected with Hepatitis-C are unaware that they even carry the virus. Treatment and testing are both available through the Veterans Administration for any veteran who believes that he or she is at risk.

I am told that my area of the country has a 28 percent infection rate among veterans, while the general population experiences a 1.8 percent infection rate. I represent the greater New York area. With a 28 percent infection rate, I call upon our veterans to be aware of this.

In my hand I hold a very simple home test kit for Hepatitis-C, and I am calling on all of our veterans to try to get tested. The veterans can get one of these test kits if they go to a VA hospital or if they contact the American Liver Foundation at 1-800-GO-LIVER for information about these testing programs.

Testing is very easy. It is a four-step process. It is very, very simple. First you pick up the phone and you get a personal ID number, then you take your sample, it is only one drop of blood, and you mail it in a pre-paid envelope. Ten days later you call for a completely confidential result.

It is important that every veteran who has been exposed to any blood-to-blood contact pick up one of these Hepatitis-C check kits and call 1-800-GO-LIVER or go to their VA hospital, because it is important, especially in our greater New York area, that the veterans in that area get tested. Please get tested, especially if you are a veteran, before the symptoms of severe liver disease begin to show themselves. By the time that they do, it is almost too late.

LOWERING THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHERWOOD). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to talk about an important issue that more and more Americans are concerned about, and that is the high cost of prescription drugs here in the United States. I want to show a chart that reflects just how severe this problem is.

This chart talks about one of the most commonly prescribed drugs in the United States, called Prilosec. It is a drug that deals with a gastrointestinal problem of too much acid. If you buy that drug, a 30-day supply in Minneapolis, Minnesota, it will sell for about \$99.95. Now, if you happen to be vacationing in Manitoba, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, you take exactly that same prescription into a prescription supply of some kind, a drugstore, you will be able to buy that drug for \$50.88, exactly the same drug, made in exactly the same plant, same dosage, everything. But, interestingly enough, if you take that same prescription into a drugstore in Guadalajara, Mexico, you can buy that drug for \$17.50.

Mr. Speaker, this is the day and age of NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement. Goods and services are supposed to be able to go across our borders freely. That is true of almost every other product, except drugs.

We are not alone in saying that prescription drugs have gone up a lot. Our own estimates by our own government say that over the last 4 years, prescription drugs here in the United States have gone up 56 percent. Last year